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M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Naoyasu MIYAGAWA, et al. Prior Art Unit: 2753

Application No.: Continuation Application of Serial No. 08/396,981, filed March 1, 1995 Prior Examiner: N. Hindi

Filed: October 19, 1999

For: OPTICAL RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL DISKS WITH VARIOUS DISK SUBSTRATE THICKNESS

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2700 MAIL ROOM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-24, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 35. An optical recording/reproducing apparatus for recording, reproducing or erasing an information signal onto/from any one of N types (where  $N \geq 2$ ) of optical discs having transparent substrates of different thicknesses, each type of said optical discs having at least said transparent substrate and an information layer, by converging a light flux onto said information layer through said transparent substrate, said apparatus comprising:  
a converging means having different numerical apertures for converging the light flux on said information layer of corresponding one of said N types of optical discs.

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